

Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 32 | Min 22 | Humidity 40%

Mostly Sunny



Sensex 59,655 | Nifty 17,624 | Gold 59,855 | Silver 74,670 | Dollar 82.04 | Euro 90.04 | GBP 102.02

In the name of abolishing limited work hours for women, oppressive system set up using factories bill, activists allege

DO NOT GO GENTLE INTO THAT NIGHT SHIFT

Factories (Karnataka Amendment) Bill, 2023, mandates night transport for women aboard vehicles fitted with CCTV cameras, GPS navigation

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The Factories (Karnataka Amendment) Bill, 2023, was adopted in the state legislative assembly recently, enabling female workers to be employed on night shifts.

The employment will be subject to conditions such as providing transportation facilities for women and obtaining written consent from those who are interested to work. That said, activists in Bengaluru are of the opinion that the rules will remain only on paper. According to them, women will turn into liabilities for the employers, likely leading them to hire men instead.

Advocate Maitreyi Krishnan told BM that in the name of abolishing limitations on work hours for women, an oppressive system is being brought about.

"They say that it will be done with consent but the fact of the matter is women are told to work night shifts or

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 >>



“ They say it will be done with consent but the fact is... women are told to work night shifts or leave their jobs. It will be used as a tool to threaten workers and as a coercive tactic to terminate

— Maitreyi Krishnan, lawyer

DONE & DUSTED

Pollution sensors at work sites



PAGE 3

GREEN DAY

How city observed earth day

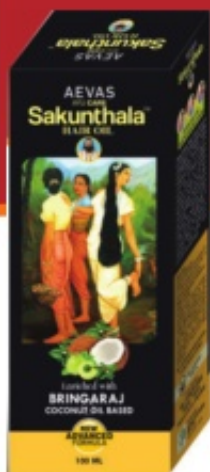


PAGE 4

To Prevent Hair Fall and for luscious growth of hair

Sakunthala

Natural Hair Oil



Pure Coconut Oil based

No added Mineral Oil

No added preservatives



It increases blood circulation to the roots of the hair and strengthens hair thus preventing breaking of hair or hair loss.



When massaged on scalp, it ensures better blood circulation and prevents formation of dandruff.



It acts as a protective shield to the hair and prevents dry hair, thus making the hair shinier.



It nourishes the entire stretch of hair right from the roots and ensures healthy growth of hair.



Prevents Hair fall, dandruff, untimely greying of hair and keeps eyes and scalp cool and ensures a good sleep. It helps in growth of luscious, black hair. Men and women of all ages can use Sakunthala Hair Oil. It should be applied as necessary to the scalp at least half an hour before bath.

For more details contact: From the house of A & J Health Care, Bangalore For a Healthy Society Ph: 8762226000, 9243112337

3 THINGS TO DO

01 Grand night



One of the most popular DJs of India is coming to Bengaluru this Saturday. Get ready to enjoy the electrifying beats as he plans to take over the stage at Magique with his famous Xylobands. Have loads of fun with your friends at the new locale in the city.
Where: Magique, Koramangala
When: April 29; 10 pm onwards



02 Best of plays

Grab a chance to watch some of the very good artists perform Rakshasa Tangadi, originally written by the legendary Girish Karnad. The play will bring about the right set design, music and other properties to add a good visual to the production. The play is about the Deccan Sultans of Bahamani Kingdom and the Vijayanagara Empire set in 1565. It ought to discover the dark side of politics, power, love, and more, which happens to be remembered in the history of India. **Where:** Kalagrama
When: Sunday, April 30; 7:00 pm

03 Let's get together



Wellcome Trust brings 'Mindscapes: In the company of others', an international cultural programme about mental health with an aim to bring about positive change on how mental health is perceived and talked about. The exhibition brings together cultural, policy and research folks on one single platform. It also sought to develop community learning, sharing, and the ways in which arts can help create diverse language of emotions.
Where: Museum of Art & Photography (MAP)
When: On view till August

This test can help you rule out a heart attack

City doctors rely on troponin tests to detect heart attacks; say test is reliable and enables earlier detection and intervention in cardiac events

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Doctors report a spike in patients visiting hospitals with chest pain, fearing a heart attack as heart attack cases increase. In response, a section of doctors is using troponin tests to detect heart attacks. Troponin is an enzyme present in the heart muscle, and when there is damage to the heart muscle due to a heart attack, it is released into the blood. Troponin tests can detect minor heart attacks that may be missed by an ECG or echocardiogram. Troponin tests are highly sensitive and can detect heart muscle damage as early as six hours after a heart attack.

Dr Sunil Kumar S, an interventional cardiologist at Manipal Hospital Hebbal, explains that every patient who visits the emergency room complaining of chest pain undergoes troponin testing. While he has not noticed a significant increase in the number of people undergoing troponin testing, his team does examine troponin levels of every patient who visits the emergency room with chest pain. This is one of the ways he can detect or rule out a heart attack.

"There are several advantages to using troponin testing. Troponin is an enzyme present in the heart muscle that gets released into the bloodstream when there's damage to the heart



Doctors see a spike in patients visiting hospitals with chest pain, fearing a heart attack

muscle due to a heart attack. It has two variants: Troponin-I and Troponin-T, and while some centres use one or the other, the information we get from them is the same," he said.

Typically, these enzymes are present in very small quantities in the blood. An increase in enzyme levels over the normal level in a patient with chest pain suggests that troponin has been released from the heart muscle due to an injury to the heart muscles. This allows doctors to detect a patient with a mild heart attack, which may be missed on an ECG or echocardiogram. In some cases, a patient with a mild

heart attack may have a normal ECG and echocardiogram, but elevated troponin levels will help us diagnose the condition, he added.

Dr Sanjay Bhat, a senior consultant in interventional cardiology at Aster CMI Hospital in Bangalore, noted an increase in the number of patients seeking medical attention for chest pain. He stressed the importance of seeking medical attention from qualified healthcare professionals to determine the underlying cause of chest pain. Troponin tests are highly reliable and sensitive and enable earlier detection and intervention in cardiac

Troponin is an enzyme present in the heart muscle that gets released into the bloodstream when there's damage to the heart muscle

— Dr Sunil Kumar S

events, which significantly improves outcomes and saves lives.

The amount of troponin detectable in the blood also provides important information. If a patient has a significant amount of Troponin-I, it suggests a significant injury to the heart muscle, and the patient's outcome is likely to be worse than patients with less increase in troponin levels. After a heart attack, it takes time for troponin levels to increase in the blood.

"Up to three hours after the onset of symptoms, we may not detect any significant amount of troponin, even if the patient has had a heart attack. The levels increase only after three to four hours. If a patient comes within three hours of experiencing chest pain, and their ECG, echocardiogram, and troponin levels are normal, we do not send them home. Instead, we monitor them for the next three to four hours and repeat the tests," he said.

If the second test is normal, the chances of a heart attack are low, and it is safe to send the patient home. Troponin levels can remain elevated for up to two weeks after an attack, he added.

PU results: Matter of zero pass marks

This time, a record number of students have passed as the II PU results have shown an impressive 74.67% pass percentage, which is a significant increase of 12.79% from last year. This rise can be attributed to the inclusion of the multiple-choice question pattern for 20 marks. Despite this progress, the number of colleges receiving zero results has unfortunately increased. In the past five years, there has been a six-fold increase in colleges achieving a 100 pc pass rate. However, the number of colleges with zero results has also increased, with a total of 78 colleges falling in this category, compared to none last year.

However, colleges have a dif-

ferent story to tell when it comes to the reasons for poor results. The causes for colleges receiving zero results are varied. Some colleges lack adequate infrastructure, such as a furnished building and drinking water, which can discourage parents from enrolling their children. Although remedial classes have been conducted, they do not seem to be effective in reducing the number of colleges with zero results.

In addition, some colleges have a low number of students, making it financially difficult to recruit enough lecturers to teach all six subjects. Shivakumar, principal of Byraveshwara PU College, Tumakuru, said, "Our college is experiencing a shortage of lecturers. Previously, there were

13 teaching and non-teaching staff in the PU department, but since January, I have been the only one remaining. This shortage of lecturers is causing students to struggle and fail due to insufficient instruction."

An official said, "The colleges with zero results are primarily private colleges and aided colleges, with no government colleges on the list. In some cases, the total number of students admitted in these colleges is not more than 170, with some colleges having only one or two students.

Some students may be far from learning and cannot be expected to achieve better results even with the opportunity to teach. The shortage of lecturers is also a significant factor con-



tributing to the poor results." R Ramachandran, Chairman of the Karnataka School Examination and Assessment Board said, "In the first step, we will issue notices to colleges that have a zero pass rate.

We will then allow them to improve their results. If there is still no improvement, we may be forced to withdraw their accreditation."

— BMB

Why the dust never settles in Silicon city

Experts suggest installation of dust pollution sensors at construction sites, use of fogging systems

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If you reside in the Silicon city, it is likely that you come across construction work all around you during your daily lives. Many have accepted that it is part of urban life, but most are unaware of the ill-effects on health due to consistent exposure to construction activities.

Activists and health experts are of the opinion that construction sites in the city will have to be installed with dust pollution measuring sensors, which will provide real-time data to the civic body for monitoring, taking cue from Ahmedabad which has recently implemented the initiative.

A senior official from the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB) said that dust pollution sensors need to be mandated in Bengaluru too, considering that it is one of the many 'non-attainable cities' in Karnataka. Cities are declared non-attainable if they consistently (over a period of five years) do not meet the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for PM 10 (particulate matter that is 10 microns or less in diameter) or NO₂ (Nitrogen Dioxide). Along with this, the official said that each construction site must mandatorily have



BM had reported on Sunday about health issues residents of area in vicinity of huge construction site are facing

a fogging system. "These machines break down each water droplet which is around the size of 3,000 microns to approximately 10 microns. Since one drop is broken into so many minute parts, it will go and make the dust settle," he said.

He noted that often people opt to sprinkle water using hose-pipes, which leads to wastage with no real use and instead suggested that the public install two

fogging systems per acre to ensure that the dust settles.

Leo Saldanha, a member of the Environment Support Group (ESG), said that the sensors are supposed to be installed in accordance with the Control of Pollution Act 1974. However, the authorities have long stalled this initiative, he said.

Dr Anupama Menon, a paediatric pulmonologist, noted that dust mites -- microscopic creatures that feed on organic matter such as dead skin cells and animal skin particles -- are one of the most common indoor allergens. Coupled with construction dust from outdoors, the situation of allergy gets worsened.

Symptoms of allergies include redness, itching, and tearing of eyes, atopic dermatitis or eczema, nasal allergy, and asthma, which are often worse at night and early morning due to maximum exposure while sleeping.

"Dust mites cling to bedding, mattresses, upholstered furniture, carpets, and curtains, making them difficult to eliminate. However, to reduce the number of dust mites in your home, clean floors often with a damp mop or cloth, dust regularly with a micro-fiber cloth or wet washcloth, vacuum carpets once or twice a week using a vacuum with a HEPA filter, and reduce clutter. Keeping humidity levels at homes below 50% and avoiding stuffed animals and soft toys can also help," she said.

Fin Min sounds caution on financial influencers

Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, while addressing an interactive session on Sunday in Karnataka said there is no proposal to regulate social and financial influencers but emphasised that a strong sense of caution is required.

She was responding to a question that many people consume social media where financial influencers are the new financial experts.

She was asked whether there are any talks happening on regulating financial influencers.

"At this stage, I am not having any proposal before me for regulating them, but just a word of caution is important. If there are three or four people giving us very objective good advice, there are seven others out of 10 who are probably driven by some other considerations," she said.

"There're many ponzi apps on which we're working with concerned ministry & RBI & clamping down on them like never before," she said.

Social influencers and financial influencers are all out there but a strong sense of caution is required in each one of us to make sure we do double checking, counter-checking, don't go as a flock into something and therefore protect our hard-earned money, she added.

Earlier, in March this year, the Department of Consumer Affairs released a set of guidelines for celebrities, influencers, and virtual influencers on social media platforms. **ANI**

Green cess for non-K'taka vehicles at Bandipur

Bandipur National Park is now collecting toll from inter-state vehicles passing through its national highways. This toll has been imposed by the forest department as a green cess that will be used to control environmental pollution and develop the park. The toll will be collected from inter-state vehicles passing through Kekkanahalla and Melukamanahalli checkpoints while entering Tamil Nadu and from vehicles leaving or entering Karnataka through Maddur and Moohol-hole checkpoints.

The employees manning the checkpoints will also ensure that nobody in the vehicles throws plastic in the park area. To collect the toll and issue receipts, the personnel will use machines provided to inter-state motorists. Buses and mini-buses will be charged Rs. 50, while cars will be charged Rs. 20. This road is frequently used by travellers heading towards Tamil Nadu and Kerala. Toll collection from inter-state vehicles has been a topic of debate for years, but it has finally been implemented. **BMB**

New entry in not-to-do hitlist of Cubbon Park

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Seems like the rules at Cubbon Park, never stop. In the latest such incident, skaters are on receiving end of the not-to-do list. People were told to stop skating at Cubbon Park that is a popular destination for skaters who use it as a recreational and fitness space, as well as a place to learn the skill for green transportation purposes.

The park is known for its vast expanse of roads and footpaths that provide ample space for various activities. However, Sunday proved to be a dampener for skaters at the park.

According to skaters, the reason given for this decision is that walkers are being disturbed by the sound of the skating wheels on the road. However, skaters claim that they do



not use the jogging paths and stick to the roads only.

They argued that they are not causing any harm to the walkers, and their presence on the road is not posing

ing a threat to the park's visitors.

Skaters have expressed their disappointment over this decision, stating that learning and pursuing skating in Cubbon Park has brought about a

“Skating is a great way to connect with like-minded people. We have been skating in Cubbon Park for years and it's disheartening to see our access being restricted

positive change in their lives.

Many of them have found solace in skating. Skating at the park has also given them an opportunity to socialise with like-minded individuals and has provided them with a sense of community.

Skaters also point out that the roads in Cubbon Park are used by various other modes of transport, including cycles, motorbikes, and cars. They feel that barring them from

using the roads for skating is unjustified and could be potentially dangerous. Skating on the busy roads outside the park could be hazardous, and the park provides a much safer and controlled environment for skaters to pursue their hobby.

One of the regular skaters told BM, "Skating is not just a hobby, it's a passion for many of us. We respect the park rules and stay on the roads designated for us. It's sad to see our access being restricted because of a few complaints from walkers."

Another skater explained what the activity means to them.

"Skating is a great way to connect with like-minded people and build a community. We have been skating in Cubbon Park for years and it's disheartening to see our access being restricted. We hope the authorities can understand our perspective and work towards a solution."



Sowing seeds for better days

Koramangala residents get free packets of seeds during Earth Week celebrations

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Around 1,000 packets of tree and flowering seeds were distributed free of cost on Saturday on the occasion of World Earth Day. Seed Paper India organised an event at Koramangala 7th Block to distribute the same among citizens in the area.

"We distributed around 50 tree and flowering seeds last year on the occasion of World Earth Day. Encouraged by the response from the residents, we distributed 1,000 tree and flowering seeds on Saturday.

We want to take it forward to other areas during World Environment Day celebrations in June this year. We want to distribute 10,000 tree and flowering seeds free of cost," said Seed Paper India's founder Roshan Ray.

He said that the goal of the organisation is to encourage citizens to take a step towards a greener and more sustainable future by planting these seeds and watching them grow.

"These seeds are not only a symbol of hope for a better tomorrow, but they also play an important role in preserving the biodiversity of our planet. Bengaluru is already witnessing a rise in temperature," he said. These are among some of the practices that can promote positive change.

He said that the seed bombs are made from garment waste brought from Tirupur. "Seed bombs made



(Left) Seed bombs, made out of garment waste, are a great way to promote sustainability and environmentalism; (Right) Padmavathy Diwakar, a resident of Laggere, pictured holding seed bombs

"We distributed around 50 seeds last year on Earth Day. Encouraged by the response, we distributed 1,000 tree seeds on Saturday"

— Roshan Ray, Seed Paper India

from garment waste are a great way to promote sustainability and environmentalism while also encourag-

ing the growth of new plant life. They are an excellent option for people who want to make a positive impact on the environment, even if they do not have a lot of space or experience with gardening," he said.

Seeds of Sababul, cassia fistula, golden shower trees, marigold flower seeds, and tomato seeds were among those distributed.

Padmavathy Diwakar, a resident of Laggere, said that she came to know about the distribution of tree and flowering seeds through media

reports.

"I am very happy to receive tree seeds and flowering seeds. I will plant these seeds at my native place," said Diwakar.

Supriya, founder of Leafy Affair from JP Nagar, said that she received 750 packets of tree and flowering seeds.

"I distributed 250 seed packets for three days. I will continue the distribution of seed packets for some more days," she told Bangalore Mirror.

Taking out trash with cleanliness drives

Volunteers and city dwellers collect over 110 kg of trash beneath flyover and footpath

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Earth Week is an annual event that takes place from April 16-22 each year. It is dedicated to raising awareness about the environment and encouraging individuals to take action to protect our planet. During Earth Week, people from all over the world come together to participate in activities and events that focus on promoting sustainability and protecting the earth.

In Bengaluru, volunteers from various organisations led a cleanliness drive in different localities as a part of the event. Volunteers from the Ploggers Army carried out a ploggers run along with cleanliness drives at the Madiwala Lake, Bellandur Eco World, Agara Lake, Jaya Nagar Shalini Grounds, and Lalbagh throughout the entire week.

During the cleanliness drives,



Inset: Volunteers from different organisations came together with one common agenda of maintaining a cleaner neighbourhood

various companies also came forward to indulge in their activities as a part of their Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) activities. Volunteers from different organisations came together with one common agenda of maintaining a healthier and cleaner neighbourhood.

The volunteers collected over 110 kg of trash beneath the flyover and footpath during the cleanliness drive. Raj from the Ploggers Army said, "The Indian Ploggers Army aims to sensitise people in different neighbourhoods and to

encourage them not to litter. In the process, we create awareness of not disposing of single-use disposables. Predominantly, we see waste like paper cups, gutka packets, plastic straws, food wrappers, and parcelled food packets in large numbers."

On Sunday, a group of young volunteers came together to clean up Lalbagh, where a large number of plastic water bottles, tetra packets, and ice cream sticks were thrown around. They collected over 29 kg of waste during the drive. "It was my first plog, and I went along with my friends to clear up the trash present at Lalbagh. I have realised how

"I have realised how single-use plastic is bad for the environment, and I have decided to do my bit by stopping the use of plastic"

— Lithisha, volunteer



single-use plastic is bad for the environment, and I have decided to do my bit by stopping the use of plastic," said Lithisha, one of the young volunteers.

The volunteers' efforts during Earth Week in Bengaluru demonstrated the importance of taking collective action to protect our planet. By promoting sustainability, reducing waste, and advocating for environmental policies, individuals and organisations can work together to create a healthier and cleaner environment for everyone.

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9591233247

Problems in your area?
Send us a picture along with specific details. And please, no phone calls or spamming

Trash talk

Jayanagar



Garbage near Jayanagar 9th block, Ragigudda bus stand needs to be cleared.

Crowded affair

Chandapura



This is the condition of Chandapura bus stop (towards Anekal) due to low frequency of BMTC buses on this route.

Shoddy work

Yelahanka



Drain work by BBMP in Yelahanka New Town needs to be finished.

For stray animals: 'Save just ₹10 every day'

Sudha Murthy has a request: save up and donate to goshalas or to those who feed strays

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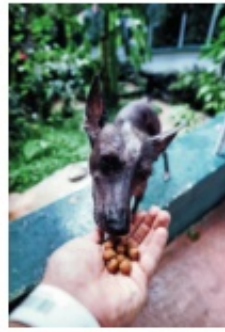
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Padma Bhushan awardee Sudha Murthy, has appealed to people to save Rs 10 per day for the welfare of stray animals and dogs that are suffering in the city.

At a felicitation function organised by her fans, she said that one can save Rs 3,650 per year if he/she sets aside Rs 10 per day. "You can donate the amount to a goshala or those who are feeding stray animals and



Sudha Murthy advised people to set a small quantity of rice for dogs



stray dogs. Those who find it difficult to save Rs 10 a day, they can set a small quantity of rice aside every day and donate it to goshala or to dog feeders," she said.

Advising parents not to pressurise children to score high in examina-

tions, she said that parents should not compare their children with others. "Parents comparing their children with others will not help their children. Parents have to spend quality time with their children. They have to know the problems of their

children and do counselling whenever it is required. They should enable their children to become good human beings in society," she explained.

Furthermore, she said that the need of the hour is for women to use their power prudently.

"Women are identified as daughter, sister, daughter-in-law, and mother. They have an abundance of power. They have to utilise their power. I have utilised my power. I want women to do something for society during their leisure time as per their capacity. They need not to form or establish a foundation to do social work. They can do social work as per their convenience and capacity," she said.

She advised that people should not work for money, name, fame or

awards.

"You do your work with dedication and focus. If you do good work, awards will follow you," she further added.

Ramesh Reddy, who organised the function to felicitate Murthy, said that he was very happy when she was selected for Padma Bhushan award.

Meanwhile, Sudha Murthy's appeal for the welfare of stray animals and dogs received appreciation from animal activists. "Sudha Murthy's appeal is touchy. She said how children should be nourished with compassion at home. It will make them valuable citizens in society," said Levin N, an animal activist.

Sujaya Jagadish, SPCA member, said, "Mrs Murthy's request for people participation is an extremely wise one."

Carpooling: A thrifty choice?

New application developed solely for carpooling helps facilitate travelling from airport towards city; commuters face inconveniences

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Since the fear of covid has subsided among citizens and workplaces have begun mandating their employees to work from the office, commuting has become a hassle for many due to rising fuel prices and inadequate public transportation systems. As a result, employees are once again considering carpooling as a way to save resources. Additionally, a new application has sprung up to facilitate those travelling from Bengaluru airport on the outskirts towards the city.

The application allows travellers from the airport to carpool with others to different parts of the city, with the objective of saving money. Cab rides can often be expensive, costing close to Rs 1,500, and the Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTCL) Vayu Vajra air-conditioned buses dedicated to the airport route take longer routes that circle the city, leading to an increase in travel time, even though the cost of each ticket is a maximum of Rs 336. The application on the other hand allows the riders to split the fare equally, approximately having each of the riders pay over Rs 600.

When one opens the application and enters their destination, it will show other commuters travelling to the same locality. One can connect with the person through a call and ascertain the booking. The application has an option for female users to filter out commuters around them on



The application allows travellers to carpool with others, with the objective of saving money

“ Even with a driver, a woman has to be very cautious, let alone travelling with an unknown passenger. It may lead to an untoward incident

—Kavya Suman, a commuter

the basis of gender in case they are unsure of travelling with male companions. Users will also be asked to provide their Aadhar Card details and those who have provided them will have a green tick next to their username.

Aman Vimal, a resident who recently tried the app said that

even after half an hour of waiting, he was unable to find a companion to ride with.

Furthermore, Kavya Suman, another commuter said that travelling with strangers might turn out to be a risky event.

"Even with a driver, a woman has to be very cautious, let alone

travelling with an unknown passenger. It may lead to an untoward incident," she said.

A spokesperson from the application said that car pooling was a popular option before the pandemic, with aggregator apps such as Ola and Uber, since it turned out to be an economical choice for a vast majority of people. It has only begun to gain attention once again. They added that one can choose to travel with the platform only if they feel comfortable doing so with the other person.

Special guest at Dr Rajkumar's b'day



Bharathinagar Residents' Forum celebrated Dr Rajkumar's birth anniversary on Sunday by distributing notebooks to the students from economically weaker families.

Vijayalakshmi, the daughter of late Veerappan, was the chief guest at the function. Vijayalakshmi garlanded Dr Rajkumar's bust at Cox Town Junction before attending the notebook distribution function. She said that she decided to attend the function after coming to know Dr Rajkumar family's contribution for the welfare of students from economically weaker families.

—BMB

Live demo on how to save lives



Manipal Hospitals brought together 20 transplant survivors, donors, and doctors to watch the match between Royal Challengers Bangalore (RCB) and Rajasthan Royals (RR) at M Chinnaswamy Stadium on Sunday. The aim was to create awareness about how to save lives by demonstrating cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) before the game. As part of the 'Guardians of the Heart' campaign, a team of cardiologists from the Bangalore Cluster, along with transplant donors and recipients, supported the live CPR initiative. Dr Ranjan Shetty, HOD & Consultant - Interventional Cardiology, and Dr Mabel Vasnaik, HOD & Consultant - Emergency Medicine, demonstrated CPR in front of a crowd of 40,000 spectators. This was the first time that any hospital had performed such a demonstration before any T-20 match. Karthik Rajgopal, COO, Manipal Hospitals said, "CPR prior to the start of a match emphasises the importance of being ready to tackle emergency situations regardless of where we are."

—BMB

RaGa's dig at camp saffron

Cong leader says Modi, BJP leaders speak about Basavanna, but don't follow his teachings



Congress leader Rahul Gandhi addresses a gathering at the Basava Jayanti celebrations in Bagalkote, Karnataka on Sunday

Invoking 12th century social reformer Basavanna on his birth anniversary, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Sunday claimed Prime Minister Narendra Modi and ruling BJP leaders only spoke about the Lingayat philosopher in their speeches but didn't follow his teachings.

Calling the BJP government in Karnataka the "most corrupt in the country", he declared that Congress would win 150 seats in Karnataka out of the total 224 in the May 10 Assembly polls, while the "40 per cent BJP government" would get only 40 seats. He was referring to complaints from contractors that the BJP government in the state had allegedly sought 40 per cent commission from them for government contracts.

"Basavanna had said don't fear, speak out truth. If we see today, there is BJP and RSS ideology which is creating an atmosphere of hatred and violence in the country. Prime Minister and BJP leaders speak about Basavanna, but don't follow his teachings," Gandhi said.

Addressing a public meeting here, he said Basavanna had spoken about helping the weaker sections of society, he did not say "help the billionaires".

"I have read about Basavanna's teachings.



"I have read about Basavanna's teachings. Nowhere has he written 'get the country's wealth to Adani'. The country's entire wealth is being given to Adani — Rahul Gandhi, Congress leader

Nowhere has he written 'get the country's wealth to Adani'. I spoke in Parliament house, I asked the Prime Minister as to what was his relationship with Adani? "The country's entire wealth, ports and airports are being given to Adani; what's your relationship?", he said.

Claiming that his microphone was first switched off in the Parliament for asking those questions, Gandhi said his speech was

then removed from Parliament records, and at the end he himself was removed from the Lok Sabha.

"They think that the truth can only be spoken in Lok Sabha, but it can be spoken anywhere, even here," he said.

AICC General Secretary KC Venugopal, Karnataka Congress campaign committee chief MB Patil, and KPCC working president Satish Jarkiholi, were among those present.

Gandhi was speaking after holding a massive road show from Shivaji Circle to Kanakadasa Circle, amid the sound of drum beats, in which large crowds of people took part.

, earlier today, began his two-day visit to poll-bound Karnataka from Kudala Sangama, where he offered obeisance to Basaveshwara, also known as Basavanna, on his birth anniversary, celebrated as Basava Jayanti. Basavanna is the founder of the Lingayat sect.

This visit of Gandhi is seen as an attempt by the Congress to bolster Lingayat outreach ahead of the May 10 Assembly polls. Lingayats are a dominant community constituting about 17 per cent of the State's population, largely seen as the ruling BJP's vote bank.

—PTI

Poll wrap: What is Karnataka up to?

CPI to back Cong candidates

The Congress and Communist Party of India (CPI) on Sunday announced their alliance for the assembly polls. As per the understanding between the two parties, the CPI cadre will support the Congress candidates in 215 of the 224 constituencies of the state.

While the last date for submitting nomination papers was April 20, the papers were scrutinised on April 21, and the last day for withdrawal of nominations is April 24.

According to Congress' Karnataka in-charge, Randeep Surjewala, seven constituencies will witness 'friendly contests' between the two allies as the CPI has already fielded its candidates in those constituencies.

"CPI has fielded seven candidates and they were going to field more candidates. But I and the party reached out to the CPI state leadership and national leadership, and they have agreed that there will be a friendly contest on the seven seats, but on all remaining 215 seats, the entire CPI cadre will wholeheartedly support the Congress candidates in this fight against BJP," Surjewala said.

—IANS

HD Kumaraswamy 'recovering'

JD(S) leader HD Kumaraswamy, who has been hospitalised with symptoms of exhaustion and general weakness, is "medically stable and is recovering", the hospital treating him said on Sunday.

The former Karnataka Chief Minister's office said the 63-year old leader, who had been touring tirelessly, was suffering from fever and was advised by doctors to rest.

"Mr HD Kumaraswamy was admitted on April 22 evening to Manipal Hospital, Old Airport Road Bengaluru," the hospital said in a statement.

"All relevant medical tests and treatment are being carried out. He is medically stable and is recovering," it added.

Kumaraswamy has requested JD(S) workers and leaders not to worry, and that he will participate in the election campaign after resting, his office said in a statement.

Kumaraswamy had undergone heart-related surgery in the past.

—PTI

Siddaganga Mutt supremo's plea

A prominent religious head has appealed to voters to come out in large numbers and exercise their democratic right to elect their government.

"Election is the festival of democracy and every citizen has a right to vote in accordance with the Constitution. It is the duty of the people to vote, whomever they wish as it is their choice to elect leaders (to govern them)," Siddaganga Mutt supremo Siddalinga Mahaswami told PTI in an interview here.

The assembly elections in Karnataka will be held on May 10 and the counting of votes will take place on May 13.

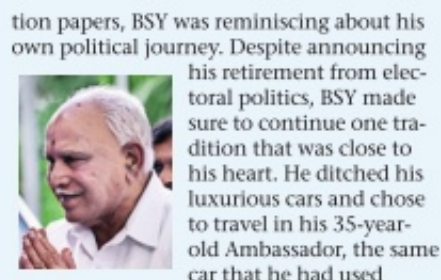
—PTI

Camaraderie

Elections can often be a contentious affair with opponents trading barbs and avoiding each other. However, in a heartening display of sportsmanship, incumbent MLA L Ravi Subramanya and UB Venkatesh, who were filing nominations for the Basavanagudi constituency, arrived at the same time. Although Subramanya finished first, he waited for Venkatesh to complete his formalities, shook his hand, wished him the best of luck, and posed for photographs together. Similarly, Magadi MLA A Manjunath and Congress candidate HC Balakrishna put aside their differences during the nomination process and shook hands, showing that even in the midst of an election, civility and respect can still prevail.

Old is gold

In another part of town, former Chief Minister BS Yediyurappa was having a rather emotional moment. Accompanying his son BY Vijayendra, who was filing his nomina-



tion papers, BSY was reminiscing about his own political journey. Despite announcing his retirement from electoral politics, BSY made sure to continue one tradition that was close to his heart. He ditched his luxurious cars and chose to travel in his 35-year-old Ambassador, the same car that he had used

No more backbenchers

During a press conference welcoming former CM Jagadish Shettar to the Congress party, KPCC president DK Shivakumar seemed to lose his temper for a moment. Before addressing the gathering, he instructed lead-



ers attempting to sit in the back rows that there was no room for backbenchers. He also asked all the leaders' gunmen and personal assistants not to sit in the back to avoid creating an unpleasant scene and requested them to move away from the dais.

Photo frenzy

At Rahul Gandhi's rally in Kolar, former CM Siddaramaiah surprised everyone with a cast



on his arm. Journalists were curious and asked Siddaramaiah about his injury. One of the Congress leader's associates revealed that during a recent event, a large group of people gathered to take photographs with Siddaramaiah, and in the commotion, a few individuals pushed each other to be in the photo frame, injuring Siddaramaiah's arm, which led him to visit a doctor and receive advice to rest his hand.

—Sridhar Vivan

NOTES FROM THE FIELD



All for love

Director UV Hari Shourya's 50-minute short movie *Colours of Love* was screened at Karnataka Chalanachitra Kalavidara Sangha on Saturday.

"I could direct this movie with the cooperation of actors and technicians. I wanted to convey a message to society, especially youngsters, that property or luxuries will not provide comfort but life will be happy if you



value the feelings of your near and dear ones," said Hari.

Prior to this, Hari had handled the megaphone for two Kannada short movies - *Crush* and *Lagori*. "Crush had 2.5 million views while *Lagori* had 8.5 million views on YouTube. I want to prove that I can make movies with a minimum budget. The budget of *Colours of Love* is Rs 8 lakh and we completed the shooting in eight days," the director said.

What made him direct *Colours of Love*? "I was contemplating making a feature film after the success of my two previous short movies. Sateesh

Vajra was the hero in both the movies. After his death, I was looking for an actor with commitment. Manish Kotian approached me for an opportunity to act in movies. I offered to play the lead in this movie because of his dedication," the director said.

The story is about a young writer who wants to get his story published in the form of a book. Will he succeed in realising his dream is what the film is about.

Manish Kotian, Anusha Raj, Prnupa Gowda, Raana Ranjith, Abhishek Shetty, Raive Lee and Raghav Soori are the cast in this movie.

WAITING FOR THE RIGHT ROLE

Trisha Krishnan says she is a fan of Kannada movies and open to acting in Sandalwood



Y Maheswara Reddy
c-y.reddy@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

It's been a decade since Trisha Krishnan was seen in a Kannada movie. The actress, who was in town recently, told BM that she is open to acting in Kannada movies and has been waiting for the right opportunity at the right time. Trisha was last seen in the Kannada movie *Power* in which Power Star Puneeth Rajkumar played the lead.

Trisha was supposed to be paired opposite Puneeth Rajkumar in the movie *Dvitva* to be directed by Pawan Kumar. But it was postponed when Pawan tested positive for covid. Later, the launch of the movie got cancelled with Puneeth's passing away. "Whenever I visit Bengaluru, I remember Puneeth Rajkumar. It also makes me remember how I was preparing to act in *Dvitva*," said Trisha.

Trisha, Vikram, Karthi and Jayam Ravi were in Bengaluru on Saturday to promote *Ponniyin Selvan 2*. Trisha said Kannada movies are becoming famous worldwide. "Kannada movies are doing amazingly well," she said.

On the preparations to act in *Ponniyin Selvan 2*, she said the director and his team kept everything ready for her six months before the shooting of the movie began. "There was nothing for me to prepare. I just followed Mani Ratnam sir's directive while facing the camera," she said.

Vikram appreciated Kannada movies *KGF* and *Kantara*.

Perfect beauty

Mahira Khan, who was last seen in the film *The Legend of Maula Jatt*, has impressed the audience since her television days. The actress is best known for her role opposite Shah Rukh Khan in the 2017 film *Raees*. However, there was a time when the actress was suggested to go for a nose job but she resisted all the unasked advice.

Recently, Mahira said that she looks at Instagram or social media and thinks it's crazy. How far down we've gone into this sort of idea of what beauty is, and how perfect one has to be. She doesn't think it's cool and that's something we should not propagate at all.

The actress remembered the time when she was judged for her nose and said that she had come from a place where there were no filters, there was just the basic thing of angles. People used to tell her 'Your nose looks bigger from this angle'. It used to affect her. Mahira decided not to get a nose job done and she is glad that she didn't do it. Mahira also revealed that even Shah Rukh Khan was told to fix his nose and she is glad that the actor also didn't do anything about it.

-ETimes



That really hurt

Bollywood actor Suniel Shetty did not hold back when he opened up about the negative effect social media has had on his life and family. The actor, in his latest appearance on a chat show, admitted that he is often 'scared to talk' because of trolls twisting his statements.

Sharing his worries about the lack of privacy and social media users abusing his family, the actor said on the Ranveer show, that "it really hurts".

Explaining how social media destroys lives, he said, "Today's time of social media there is no privacy, it destroys your life. One sentence edited in 15 different ways, put out in 15 different ways and it's destroyed our lives. You know it's made it impossible. I'm scared to talk."

He further added that many are forced to be diplomatic for fear of being 'hampered' for "something that I have not done."

He added that people he doesn't know on Twitter and Facebook are "abusing me, my family, calling my daughter a b**ch, calling my mother, for what? That hurts because I come from the old school."

Not one to take these nasty jibes lying down, Suniel said, "I'm a Shetty boy. I would never keep quiet. Today they'd say 'You know he's using his strength to do this' and not realising how much the other individual has probably damaged me and hurt me."

-ETimes



Been there and quite done with that

Actress Scarlett Johansson, who was introduced as Black Widow in *'Iron Man 2'* before going on to star in *'The Avengers'* movies along with 2021's *'Black Widow'*, said that she has no plans to return to the Marvel Cinematic Universe in the future.

"Yeah, it was awesome. It was like the best time ever. I mean, doing *'Avengers'* was so much fun. I was 26 years old, I was single, it was fun! You know, I didn't have any responsibility to any-

body but to just enjoy yourself," Scarlett said to Gwyneth Paltrow - who starred as Pepper Potts in the *'Iron Man'* movies - on *'The Goop Podcast'*," reports.

"And then every couple of years, we would go back, and do it again, and all be in different places in our lives. Like, somebody would have a kid, or was getting married, or divorced, or remarried. And it was like, an adult summer camp thing. And it was cool. It was really some of the best experiences." "I'm done. Yes, I'm done. Chapter is over. I did all that I had to do. Also, coming back and playing a character again and again like that, over a decade of time, is such a unique experience."



Not a lucky colour for Virat Kohli

Former Royal Challengers Bangalore (RCB) skipper Virat Kohli's green jersey nightmare continued as he walked back to the pavilion without opening his account against Rajasthan Royals in the Indian Premier League (IPL) 2023 on Sunday.

It was Kohli's second consecutive golden duck of the IPL in a 'green jersey'.

In 2022, Kohli was dismissed in 'green jersey' on the first ball by Jagadeesha Suchith in an IPL match

against Sunrisers Hyderabad.

On Sunday too, the RCB batter was dismissed on the very first ball of the match by Trent Boult against Rajasthan Royals during an IPL match at M Chinnaswamy Stadium.

He failed to open his account in both matches played in 'Green Jersey'.

While playing against Rajasthan Royals, RR pace bowler Trent Boult drew the first blood as Virat Kohli walked back to the pavilion for a golden duck (0/1).

ANI

RCB casts a spell in green

PICS: KAUSHIK JN

Royal Challengers Bangalore defeated Rajasthan Royals by seven runs in an Indian Premier League match in Bengaluru on Sunday.

Glenn Maxwell hammered 77 off 44 balls while Faf du Plessis contributed 62 off 39 balls to guide RCB to a par score of 189 for nine after being sent in to bat.

Stand-in skipper Virat Kohli (0) was adjudged leg-before to Trent Boult in first over but Du Plessis and Maxwell added 127 for the third wicket before RCB lost momentum towards the end.

Boult finished with 2 for 41 but best bowler on view for RR was Yuzvendra Chahal (1/28). In his entire spell, Chahal conceded only one six and not a single boundary.

Chasing, RR were on course after the early dismissal of Jos Buttler, with Yashasvi Jaiswal (47) and Devdutt Padikkal (52) stitching 98 runs for the second wicket before both departed in quick succession to be restricted to 182 for six.

Harshal Patel (3/32) was the pick of the bowlers for RCB.

Brief Scores

Royal Challengers Bangalore: 189 for 9 in 20 overs (Glenn Maxwell 77 off 44 balls, Faf du Plessis 62 off 39 balls; Trent Boult 2/41, Yuzvendra Chahal 1/28).

Rajasthan Royals: 182 for 6 in 20 overs (Devidutt Padikkal 52, Yashasvi Jaiswal 47; Harshal Patel 3/32). PTI



Women, interrupted at work

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

leave their jobs. It will be used as a tool to threaten workers and as a coercive tactic to terminate," she said.

According to the bill, employers must mandatorily provide transport facilities to women workers from their residences and back during night shifts — transport vehicles equipped with CCTV cameras and GPS. Krishnan noted that employers often refuse to ensure these mandates are followed, citing the example of 14-15 housekeeping women staff at NIMHANS who were fired for demanding transportation facilities.

Pratibha R of the Garment and Textile Workers Union (GATWU) said the employers in the garment industry, whose workforce consists mainly of women, will not take the extra burden of providing transport facilities to women working night shifts.

"Even when the government

agreed to provide free BMTC bus passes on a condition that the management agreed to pay a certain percentage, they did not take on the task," she noted.

She added that many of the workers are single mothers and those who head a family, leaving them in a vulnerable state if they are made to work night shifts. Other than the garment industry, the new rule will affect women working in pharmaceuticals, manufacturing, and other industries.

Madhu Bhushan, writer and activist, said when the bill is looked at within the context of the rights of women to work keeping in consideration the provisions, it is a progressive move. However, she noted that safety and security even during the day shifts are not ensured. The bill stipulates "it shall be the duty of the employer or other responsible persons at the workplaces to prevent or deter... acts of sexual harassment."

Bhushan explained that Internal Complaints Committees (ICCs) are not set up in a majority of sectors even though they have been mandated since 2013, by the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act.

"When they (authorities) have not paid attention for so long and suddenly have come in to say that it is being done in the interest of women, it is hard to accept," she said, alleging that the bill has been passed keeping in mind the interests of employers rather than that of workers.

Prior to the passing of the bill, women were allowed to work at factories round-the-clock as per an order issued by the state government in 2019. With the bill passed in the assembly, it is now law. The other amendments made include allowing an increase in daily working hours from nine to 12 but not exceeding 48 hours a week.

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Gene game: strong

Erasing/replacing errors in patient's genetic code could cure genetic diseases

Genetic diseases can have devastating consequences for the people who inherit them. In recent years, scientists have found that there are human genetic diseases that might be treatable, and perhaps even curable, through gene editing. Gene editing is the process by which sections of a person's DNA are altered. Commonly compared to a word processor or a pencil and eraser, precision gene editing agents can alter sections of a person's genome to correct "misspellings," or mutations, in their DNA.

David Liu is a professor of natural sciences at Harvard University.

In March, Liu's video was shared with participants at the 2023 Imagine Solutions Conference in Naples, Florida, about how gene editing works, why it is important, and the strides he and his team have made in the field so far.

What is gene editing, and why are scientists interested in developing and using this tool?

Gene editing is a technique that makes it possible to purposefully change genes in the DNA of different organisms, including crops and animals. Scientists are interested in developing and using genome editors because they are powerful tools for studying biology, treating human diseases and improving agriculture. More than 50 clinical trials using gene editing to treat a variety of disorders are in progress.

According to the US National Human Genome Research Institute, around 280 million individuals worldwide live with a rare genetic disease. Most of these individuals have few to no treatment options, leaving them resigned to their genetic fate.

Base vs prime editing

Neither base editors nor prime editors exist in nature; instead,

both were engineered in our laboratory from natural and laboratory-evolved components.

Base editing, often compared to a pencil and eraser, can precisely and efficiently correct four of the most common types of misspellings that occur in DNA, together accounting for about 30 per cent of all known disease-causing DNA errors. Base editors perform a chemical reaction on an individual DNA letter, or "base," rearranging its atoms to instead become a different DNA base. But base editing cannot be used to correct mistakes such as extra letters, missing letters or the remaining types of single-letter misspellings in DNA.

In contrast, prime editors, sometimes compared to the "search and replace" feature in a word processor, can replace any stretch of up to hundreds of DNA letters with virtually any other sequence of letters.

In theory, the versatility of prime editing makes it possible to correct most known DNA misspellings that cause disease by restoring the typical DNA sequence.

Base editing and prime editing each have their own strengths and weaknesses. Whether a scientist should use base or prime editing depends on numerous factors such as the specific sequence being edited, its unique sequence context, whether the edit will be made inside an animal or patient, and the specific goals of the scientist.

How can gene editing treat disease?

The words "bean" and "been" differ by only a single letter, yet

they have completely different meanings. In a cellular context, a single-letter misspelling in a specific position in a person's DNA – for example, from a C to a T – can mean the difference between a healthy individual and an individual with progeria, a rare genetic disease that causes children to age rapidly. Base editing has the potential to correct these small but critical DNA misspellings to reverse or cure disease.

In a 2021 study that I conducted in collaboration with scientists at the National Institutes of Health and Vanderbilt University, we used base editing to reverse progeria in mice and more than doubled their life span. In the same year, we used base editing to convert a diseased form of the hemoglobin gene HBB to a benign variant to treat sickle-cell disease in mice.

Base editing has also been successfully used in humans. After treatments of chemotherapy and a bone marrow transplant failed to treat 13-year-old Alyssa's pediatric leukemia, she enrolled in a clinical trial led by Waseem Qasim's team at the University of College London.

The base-edited T-cells cleared Alyssa's cancer and she remains in complete remission seven months later.

What implications does prime editing have for the study and treatment of genetic disease and human health?

Much like base editing, prime editing has tremendous implications for studying and treating genetic diseases. Because of its unique ability to make virtually any localized change in DNA at a target sequence, prime editing

has the potential to correct a much larger number of mutations that are known to cause genetic diseases than was previously possible. Before prime editors can be used routinely to treat genetic diseases, however, they must be tested for their safety and efficacy in patients, and for their compatibility with different delivery platforms.

Additionally, the therapeutic application of any genome editing technology requires a clear understanding of the relationship between the genetic mutation and the resulting disease to ensure that the benefits outweigh the risks.

What recent or ongoing development are you most excited about in your field?

I am excited that many labs, including my own, are developing methods to precisely install entire healthy genes into specific positions in the human genome. This could expand the potential therapeutic reach of gene editing.

I'm also excited about ongoing efforts to develop delivery technologies that can safely and efficiently deliver genome editing agents into target cells in animals and human patients. Genome editing agents are unable to easily enter cells because of their large size, unlike small-molecule drugs like ibuprofen and aspirin which can easily enter cells due to their low molecular weight. As a result, scientists have to use creative ways to deliver genome editors to their targets – a critical step if we hope to broaden the scope of therapeutic gene editing.

No fundamental technology is inherently good or bad, and the ability to edit our genomes is no exception. My hope continues to be that we collectively and thoughtfully choose to use these powerful technologies for the betterment of as many people as possible.

—David Liu (The Conversation)

MIND, BODY & HEART



All problems solved

Dear Coleen

I've been married for nearly 10 years and we have two kids aged five and seven. I'm really worried about my marriage because, since having a family, we seem to have been divided into two camps – me and the kids on one side and my husband on the other. We're arguing all the time because of it. I was never all that maternal when I was younger and wasn't sure I even wanted children but, when they came along, I realised I loved being a mum more than anything and now I put my heart and soul into caring for them. My husband is a good guy and he loves the kids, but says I smother them and spend all my time with them, so there's no time for us any more. I actually think he resents them a bit and sometimes shouts at them if they're misbehaving or haven't done what we've asked them to do, and I absolutely hate it. I usually end up shouting back, and then I'll comfort the kids. What do I do?

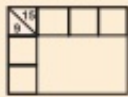
COLEEN SAYS

Kids do change a relationship, but it's about adapting and ensuring you do make time for each other. He might not be putting his feelings across in the best way and I suspect his frustration is coming out when the kids are playing up, but does he have a point? He needs to be honest with himself, too – does he handle situations with the kids in the best way and is there a bit of jealousy there? There's obviously a communication gap. You've stopped talking to each other in a meaningful way and there's a lot of resentment on both sides. I think you need a calm conversation where you agree not to get angry or walk away, and tell each other how you feel and how you think things could work better.

—Coleen Nolan, Daily Mirror

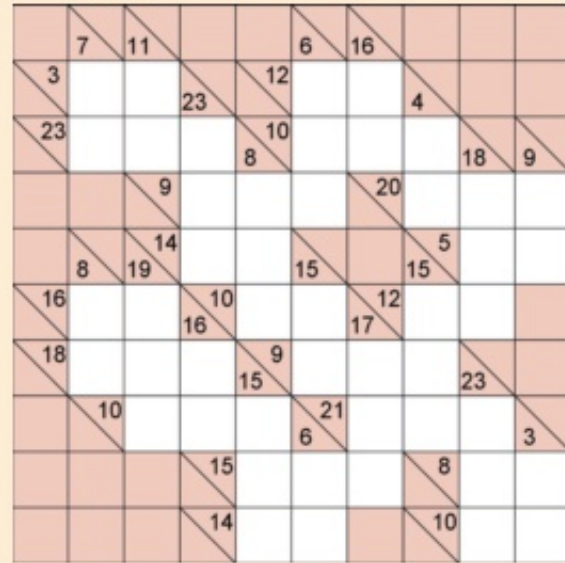
Kakuro

The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas

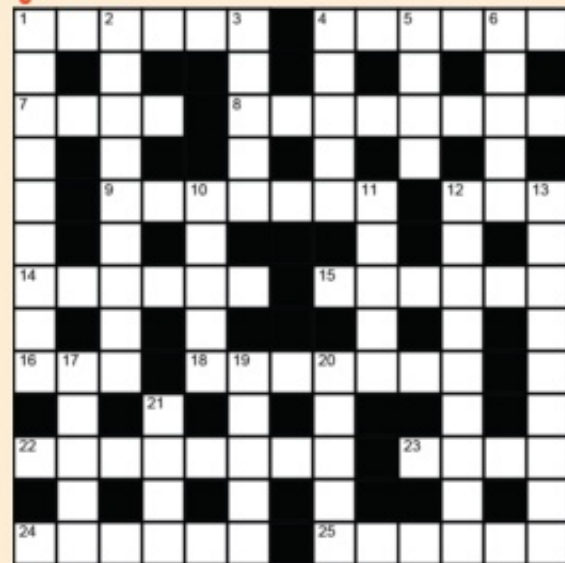


for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.

Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

- 1 Plan (6)
- 4 Passes out (6)
- 7 Think over (4)
- 8 Actual, authentic or bona fide (8)
- 9 Butt in (7)
- 12 Roman 1200 (3)
- 14 Add or attach to (6)
- 15 Outer edge (6)
- 16 Downs' counterparts (3)
- 18 Notice; discern (7)
- 22 Karnataka Rajyotsava is celebrated on the 1st of ____ (8)
- 23 Praise enthusiastically (4)
- 24 ____ truth : nothing can be more true? (6)
- 25 Hunting dogs (6)

DOWN

- 1 South Indian state (5,4)
- 2 Keyboard instruments similar to organs (9)
- 3 Lucid (5)
- 4 Cooked in oil (5)
- 5 Least amount (4)
- 6 Pick-me-up (5)
- 10 Latin American dance (5)
- 11 Mistake (5)
- 12 Store dummy (9)
- 13 Holds dear (9)
- 17 A snap (5)
- 19 Biblical tower (5)
- 20 Terra firma (5)
- 21 Dickensian villain Uriah ____ (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: F EQUALS G
JNSP N ZUKKP USEWUMNKUBS
UE YUVR KDR ECMWMUEUSF
MRCSUBS BA QRAMURSGRG
KDBCFDKE NAKRM N YBSF
ERWMNMNKUBS.



Linemaro

Are you Katrina? You rock me like a hurricane



Mindchow

Too many people overvalue what they are not and undervalue what they are



Joke of the day

I think drinking and driving is terrible. You always spill it when you change gears

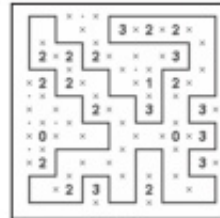
Loop

Rules

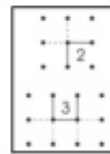
» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

How to begin:

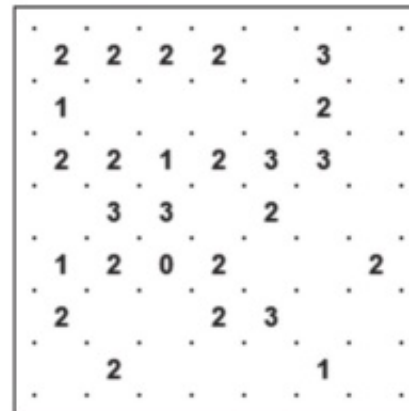
Example (Fig A) - Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.
Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



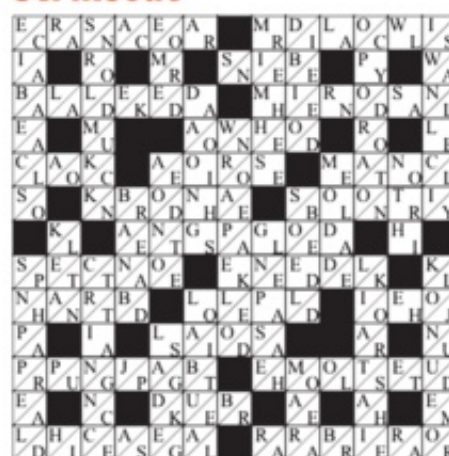
(Fig A)



(Fig B) Not Allowed



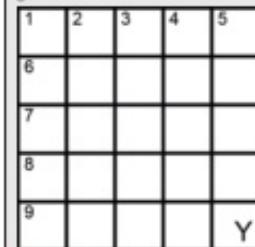
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

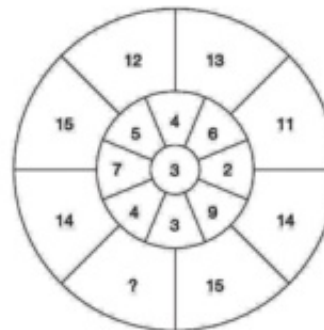
- 1 Trade; 6 Alum;
- 7 In MIB; 8 Suave;
- 9 Pryer

DOWN

- 1 Up urn (3-2); 2 Evil a;
- 3 Mater; 4 Bream;
- 5 Id Say

Mensapuzzle

What number should replace the question mark?



Bull's eye

How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

12 Average; 14 Good; 16 Outstanding

SudokuChallenge



To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.



Easy

$\square \square \square \square = 18$

$\square \square \square \square = 18$

$\square \square \square \square = 28$

$\square \square \square \square = 28$

$\square \square \square \square = 16$

$\square \square \square \square = 16$

Hocusfocus



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Words are different on TV. 2. Sandwich is moved. 3. Thumb is moved. 4. TV controls are higher. 5. Lampshade is different. 6. Collar is different.

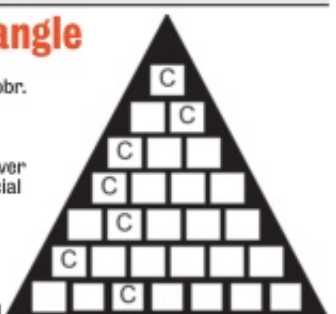
Riddler

The letter S is added to pluralise most words in the English language. eg Letter to Letters, Word to Words and Language to Languages There is a word however that is pluralised with the addition of the letter C. What is it?

Alpha triangle

- 1 Third letter
- 2 Air conditioner, abbr.
- 3 Metal container
- 4 First fratricide
- 5 Serving well
- 6 Forming a crust over
- 7 Lifting with a special device

Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be



made at each step answering to the clue given.

2500000 THRILL SEEKERS.

1 LIMITLESS LEGACY.

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